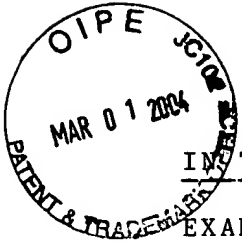


Image

AF/1700



IN THE US PATENT OFFICE

EXAMINER - Beisner

I hereby certify that the correspondence upon which this notice is placed is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313, or to US Trademark Office, 2800 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202, on the date set forth below. MCCORMY ROANA, ATTORNEY

Date 4/28/04 (signed) [Signature]

GRUP - 1744

SN - 09/927049

FILED - 8/9/01

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

BY - TAnaami

SIRS:

Responsive to the OA of 2/2/04, please amend the above as follows:
Claims 1-29, cancelled previously
Claims 30,39,and 48, amend in the manner shown in the Appendix.
Add claim 49, as set forth in the appendix.

REMARKS

Claims 30-49 are in the application. Main claims 30,39 and 48 have been amended to clarify the terminology "known" and "unknown" biopolymer segments, to clarify that the "segments" are normally "mobile" within the "container", and thereby avoid the Section 112 objection as we have understood same.

Also, claim 48 has been amended to more clearly define the invention, to add that the function of the known segment is immobilized and that the mobile unknown segment approach the known segment and caused to hybridize. Thus, clearly, claim 48 (and subclaim 49) is now distinguishable over Chong 6,238,900 and Wen-Tung 2001/5,718, and hence claim 48 avoids any Sec. 102 rejection thereby. Claim 49 adds the "optical viewer". Clearly, neither Chong nor Wen-Tung has any "means for optically viewing".